

Focus Area 1: Access to Health Care

Objective 1-1 seeks to increase the proportion of persons under age 65 with health insurance to 100 percent.

Data extracted from the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) indicate an estimated 25.9 million Californians under age 65 had current health insurance coverage in 2001 (Table 1-1, Figure 1-1). This translates to an age-adjusted percentage of 83.8 using population denominator data developed by the California Department of Finance. Similar data for 2003 indicates that 26.9 million Californians currently had health insurance, at an age-adjusted rate of 84.2 percent. Although insurance coverage rates increased slightly between 2001 and 2003, this HP2010 objective was not being achieved for approximately 5.1 million Californians (16 percent) under age 65 as of 2003.

Examined by race and ethnicity, the highest age-adjusted percentage of Californians under 65 with health insurance was observed for Whites (91.1 percent in 2001, 91.4 in 2003), followed by Blacks/African Americans (90.1 percent in 2001, 87.9 in 2003), the "Multirace" population (88.3 percent in 2001, 87.6 in 2003), Asians (85.8 percent in 2001, 87.4 in 2003), and American Indians/Alaska Natives (86.7 percent in 2001, 84.5 in 2003). Hispanics/Latinos under age 65 had the lowest rates of health insurance coverage in California during 2001 (71.8 percent) and 2003 (73.4 percent). This HP2010 objective has not been achieved for any racial or ethnic population in California as of 2003, and rates have declined and are moving away from the target for three of the six groups for whom data are available.

Data by gender shows that females under age 65 were insured at rates that were higher than those for males in 2001 (84.7 percent versus 82.9 percent, respectively) and 2003 (85.5 percent versus 83.0 percent, respectively). The HP2010 target was not being achieved for either male or female Californians under age 65 as of 2003.

For more information on health insurance coverage among Californians, visit the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) Web site at:

<http://www.chis.ucla.edu/index.html>

For more information on Healthy People 2010 objective 1-1, please visit:

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/HTML/Volume1/01Access.htm>
and

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/html/tracking/OD01.htm>

Table 1-1
Health Insurance Coverage Among Persons Under 65
California, 2001 and 2003

Persons Aged 0-64 Currently Insured	2001		2003	
	N ¹	Percent	N ¹	Percent
Healthy People 2010 Target		100.0		100.0
CALIFORNIA TOTAL	25,934,815	83.8	26,932,159	84.2
Race/Ethnicity²				
American Indian/Alaska Native	173,617	86.7	198,590	84.5
Asian	2,961,462	85.8	3,038,099	87.4
Black/African American	1,879,851	90.1	1,928,761	87.9
Hispanic/Latino	8,024,849	71.8	8,829,827	73.4
White	12,232,944	91.1	12,253,452	91.4
Multirace	577,188	88.3	609,287	87.6
Gender				
Female	12,916,800	84.7	13,464,631	85.5
Male	13,012,741	82.9	13,466,933	83.0

SOURCES: California Health Interview Survey (AskCHIS), 2001 and 2003, February 2005.

NOTES: ¹ Estimated number based on age-adjusted percentage estimates derived from the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) applied to population data derived from California Department of Finance, *Population Projections by Race/Ethnicity for California and Its Counties 2000-2050*, May 2004.

² Mutually exclusive racial and ethnic categories consistent with California Department of Finance population denominator data and AskCHIS queries for 2001 and 2003.

Figure 1-1
Health Insurance Coverage Among Persons Under 65
California, 2001 and 2003

